Task force for the welfare of minorities

69. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that Government have decided to set up task force for implementation of welfare projects for minority communities;

(b) if so, the structure of the task force; and

(c) the salient features of these welfare projects?

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI A.R. ANTULAY): (a) to (c) It has been decided to set up an inter-Ministerial task force, under the Chairmanship of Member, Planning Commission, to go into the issues arising out of the geographical distribution of minorities in India.

Plan for geographical map of minorities

70. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR : Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering a plan to prepare a geographical map of minorities across the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that his Ministry with the help of the Registrar General of India has undertaken initial mapping of districts with more than 25 per cent minirity population to ensure flow of funds to these areas on priority; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI A.R. ANTULAY): (a) to (c) Districts, CD blocks and towns, with a population exceeding 50000, which have a substantial minority population have been identified, in consultation with the Registrar General of India. The Ministries/Departments concerned with schemes included in the Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme for the Welfare of Minorities have been advised of these details for appropriate action.

Scholarship schemes for minority students

71. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state: